

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7435
BILL NUMBER: HB 1008

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 1, 2021
BILL AMENDED: Jan 28, 2021

SUBJECT: Student Learning Recovery Grant Program.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. McNamara
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill establishes the: (1) Student Learning Recovery Grant Program; and (2) Student Learning Recovery Grant Program Fund. It provides that, to be eligible to receive a grant, an eligible entity must develop and submit a student learning acceleration plan. It establishes requirements for a plan. It appropriates to the fund from the state General Fund for the purposes of the program \$150 M for the 2021 state fiscal year.

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Student Learning Recovery Grant Program and Fund:* The bill appropriates \$150 M in FY 2021 from the state General Fund to the Student Learning Recovery Grant Program Fund.

Department of Education (DOE): The bill requires the DOE to: (1) Administer the Student Learning Recovery Grant Program and Fund; (2) Establish, in consultation with the State Board, eligibility criteria for a grant from the fund; and (3) Prepare an annual report on the program not later than July 1, 2022, and July 1, 2023.

These requirements represent an additional workload [and/or expenditure] on the DOE outside of its routine administrative functions, and existing staffing and resource levels, if currently being used to capacity, may be insufficient for full implementation. The additional funds and resources required could be supplied through existing staff and resources currently being used in another program or with new appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend on legislative and administrative actions.

State Board of Education: The bill's requirements on the State Board to: (1) consult with the DOE on establishing eligibility criteria; and (2) adopt rules to implement the program; are within the agency's routine administrative functions and should be able to be implemented within its current staffing and resources.

State Educational Institutions (SEIs): See *Explanation of Local Expenditures*.

(Revised) *Additional Information:* The bill establishes the Student Learning Acceleration Grant Program and Fund to provide grants to a wide range of eligible education entities as defined in the bill. Virtual education providers are not eligible for a grant under this program. The entities would provide recovery learning and remediation only in an in-person setting to students in kindergarten through grade 12 who have experienced learning loss due to the disruption in student education caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program will run until June 30, 2023, when any money in the fund would revert to the state General Fund.

The Student Learning Recovery Grant Program Fund is a non-reverting fund consisting of appropriations by the General Assembly, donations, gifts, and money from other sources, including transfers from other funds or accounts, and interest income.

In order to receive a grant, eligible entities would have to submit a student learning recovery plan to the DOE. Any plan submitted and the funds received thereof is not subject to collective bargaining.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: School corporations and charter schools (either separately or in cooperation with other eligible entities) will incur the additional cost of developing a student learning recovery plan in accordance with the criteria outlined in the bill. School corporations and charter schools would also have to fund the shortfall if the grant received from the program is not sufficient to fund the initiatives in their student learning recovery plan.

The bill stipulates that any federal funds received under a program similar to the one in this bill must be allocated before funds received under this bill are spent. Any grants received under this bill would not be included in the revenue of the school corporation for collective bargaining purposes. School corporations may have to establish a fund specifically for the purposes of this bill.

Under the bill, school corporations and charter schools are required to provide student records to the parents of students upon request.

Explanation of Local Revenues: Local revenue will increase for those school corporations and charter schools that are awarded a grant under this program.

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education; State Board of Education; State Educational Institutions.

Local Agencies Affected: School corporations; Non-virtual Charter schools.

Information Sources:

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